

REMARKS

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the reasons that follow. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Claims 1-23 remain pending in this application.

Drawings

In Section 1 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) stating that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the Examiner stated that “the ‘actuate device’ must be shown or the feature(s) cancelled from the claim(s).” The Applicant respectfully traverses the objection.

The Applicant assumes the Examiner is referring to Claim 1. Claim 1 recites “a control circuit configured to provide a control signal to the external indicator on the vehicle to indicate to a user to actuate a tire sensor transmitter.” This is the only claim using the term actuate. However, this claim features “a control circuit,” which corresponds with control circuit 38, shown in Figure 2, that sends a control signal to an external indicator. The control signal indicates “to a user to actuate a tire sensor transmitter.” Actuating the tire sensor transmitter is not required by the claim. The Applicant asserts that all of the features of claim 1 are shown in the drawings. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Rejected Claims

In Section 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 9-14, and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,243,007 to McLaughlin et al. (hereinafter “McLaughlin”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,612,165 to Juzswik et al. (hereinafter “Juzswik”). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 recites “a control circuit configured to provide a control signal to the external indicator on the vehicle to indicate to a user to actuate a tire sensor transmitter.” Claims 9 and 16 recite indicating a tire to be trained and/or that training may begin using the external indicator. These external indications provide the indication to the user before the transmitter is actuated by the user as directed by the external indicator.

The Examiner states that McLaughlin teaches “a control circuit (figure 4) configured to provide a control signal to the indicator to indicate to a user to actuate a tire sensor transmitter.” The Applicant respectfully disagrees. McLaughlin, in the section cited by the Examiner, teaches that “hand-held transmitting wand 12 which, when held in relatively close relation to a tire 14 containing a tire condition monitoring device 16, transmits information to a monitoring device 16 through a wall of the tire 14, the monitoring device 16 in turn transmits information to a receiver and display unit 18.” (Col. 4, lines 13-21). Accordingly, the display/receiver receives information about the tire that just transmitted based on activation of the wand 12. The information would be shown after the tire has transmitted, not before.

The Examiner states that the deficiency in McLaughlin of the indicator being an external indicator is cured by combination with Juszwik, stating “Juszwik teaches a tire pressure monitoring system including an external indicator for displaying the tire condition to a user.” However, as stated above with reference to McLaughlin, the present claims are directed toward indicating a tire to be trained and not to providing a tire condition. Accordingly, Juszwik does not teach or suggest the element asserted by the Examiner and does not cure the deficiencies of McLaughlin.

Further, there is no suggestion to combine McLaughlin and Juszwik to teach the elements of Claims 1, 9, and 16 even if all of the elements were present. Claim 1 recites “a control signal to the external indicator to indicate to a user to actuate a tire sensor transmitter. Claim 9 recites “indicating a tire to be trained using the external indicator on the vehicle.” Claim 16 recites “providing an external indication on the vehicle to indicate the tire to be trained.” Claims 9 and 16 include indicating one tire to be trained, allowing the tire pressure monitoring system to specifically associate that tire’s tire pressure monitor transmitter ID

with a specific tire location on the vehicle. In contrast, McLaughlin teaches “actuating at least one switch of a keypad on the hand-held transmitter which corresponds to a particular tire position.” There would be no need to use an external indicator to indicate a position where the position was selected by a switch. Accordingly, McLaughlin teaches away from using an external indicator to facilitate training.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, McLaughlin, alone or in combination with Juszwik, does not teach or suggest all of the elements of Claims 1, 9 and 16. Even if all of the elements were taught or suggested, McLaughlin teaches away from such a combination and there is no suggestion to combine these references. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Rejection of Claims 1, 9, and 16 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-3 depend from Claim 1 and include all of the limitations thereof. Claims 10-14 depend from Claim 9 and include all of the limitations thereof. Claims 17-18 depend from Claim 16 and include all of the limitations thereof. Accordingly, these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 2-3, 10-14, and 17-18 is respectfully requested.

Objected to Claims

In Section 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to Claims 4-8, 15, and 19-23 as being dependent upon rejected base claims. The Applicant believes that the base claims are allowable based on the arguments provided above. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to Claims 4-8, 15, and 19-23 is respectfully requested.

The Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

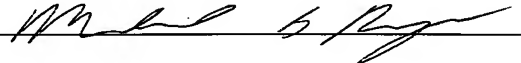
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment,

to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, the Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 12/6/05

By 

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